



Career Outlook

Demand for Healthcare Careers in Kansas City

2005

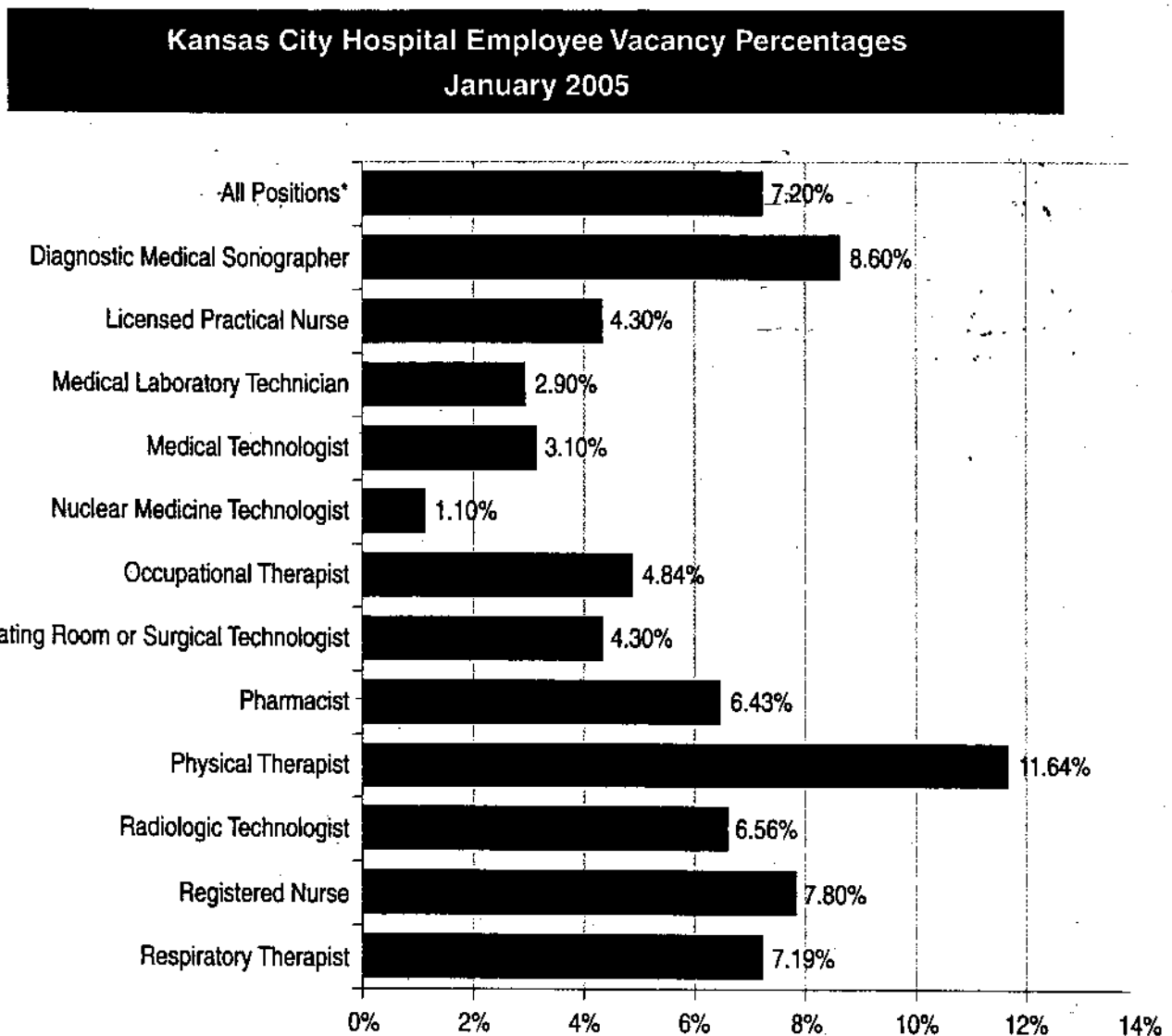


Demand for Healthcare Careers

The demand for healthcare jobs in the Kansas City metropolitan area is increasing steadily. Many of our area hospitals and healthcare providers are in great need of qualified and well-trained employees.

Which careers are in demand right now?

Unlike many other industries that have been downsizing their workforce, the healthcare industry is experiencing employee shortages in many areas. The graph below shows some of the careers that currently are in high demand in Kansas City. For example, 7.8 percent of registered nurse positions in hospitals were vacant in January 2005.



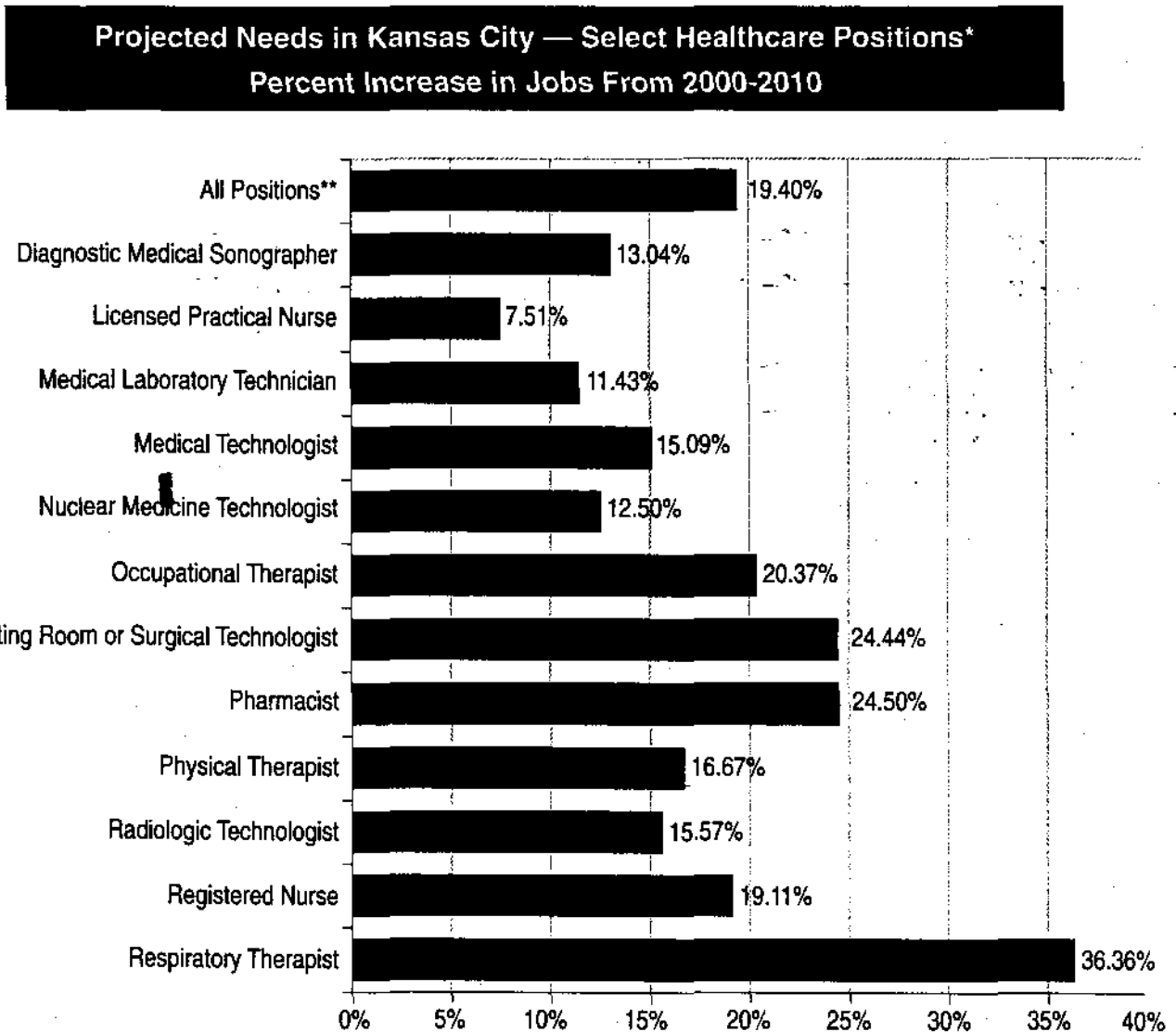
Source: Missouri Hospital Association Workforce Survey 2005

* "All Positions" refers to the average of the 12 positions on this chart.

Healthcare Career Projections

What is the growth potential for healthcare careers?

In 2010, healthcare careers are projected to remain in high demand. Job vacancies will continue as the baby boomer generation retires and people live longer. There will be a large number of healthcare employment options in various settings. Health careers are challenging, exciting and on the leading edge of technology. The following graph shows a sample of these career choices and how much they are expected to grow during the next few years.



Source: Missouri Economic Research and Information Center

* Please refer to the "Long-term Employment Projections" table on page 4 for more career projections.

** "All Positions" is the average of the 32 careers listed in the "Long-term Employment Projections" table on page 4.

Benefits of a Career in Healthcare

What are some of the benefits of healthcare careers?

As you can see, healthcare careers are in high demand. This naturally leads to job security and advancement opportunities, as well as attractive salary and benefits packages. Because of high demand and current workforce shortages, federal, state and local programs are promoting educational scholarships, on-the-job training, tuition-reimbursement programs and work-study programs.

Careers in healthcare also can allow great flexibility in work schedules. Most jobs offer full-time or part-time positions, any time of the day, any day of the week. And, most healthcare jobs can't be outsourced — jobs will remain here in Kansas City. Although jobs in healthcare are in demand nationwide, we hope you stay right here.

Best of all, by choosing a career in healthcare, you can help make a difference in people's lives.

Long-term Projections for Healthcare Careers

The table on page 4 shows a more extensive list of healthcare occupations available in Kansas City. It includes detailed information about the number of positions currently available and the projected need to fill these jobs. An overall rating of each occupation's long-term outlook is provided using the following scale.

Long-term Outlook Rating

Excellent	Outstanding — High demand and projected growth rate.
Good	Strong demand and projected growth rate.
Fair	Steady demand and projected growth rate.
Poor	Low demand and projected growth rate.
Very Poor	Low openings and projected growth rate.

Long-term Employment Projections — Kansas City

Occupation	Number of People Employed		Projected Need 2000-2010		Annual Average Openings Per Year	Hospital Vacancy Rate by Position 2005	Long-Term Outlook Rating
	2000 Estimated	2010 Projected	Number	Percent			
Dental Assistant	1,840	2,270	430	23.37%	75	NA	★★★★★
Dental Hygienist	1,600	1,960	360	22.50%	59	NA	★★★★
Diagnostic Medical Sonographer	230	260	30	13.04%	9	8.60%	★★★
Dietetic Technician	100	120	20	20.00%	6	NA	★★
Dietitian and Nutritionist	360	390	30	8.33%	13	NA	★★★
Emergency Medical Technician and Paramedic	820	1,010	190	23.17%	30	NA	★★★
Health Professional and Technician, All Other	780	900	120	15.38%	32	NA	★★★
Home Health Aide	1,840	2,160	320	17.39%	55	NA	★★★
Licensed Practical Nurse	4,530	4,870	340	7.51%	150	4.30%	★★★★★
Massage Therapist	370	400	30	8.11%	11	NA	★★★
Medical and Public Health Social Worker	880	1,050	170	19.32%	27	NA	★★★
Medical Laboratory Technician	1,050	1,170	120	11.43%	38	2.90%	★★★
Medical Technologist	1,590	1,830	240	15.09%	61	3.10%	★★★★★
Medical Records and Health Information Technician	1,740	2,280	540	31.03%	93	NA	★★★★
Medical Transcriptionist	720	850	130	18.06%	32	NA	★★★
Nuclear Medicine Technologist	80	90	10	12.50%	3	1.0%	★★
Nursing Aide, Orderly, Attendant	8,870	10,300	1,430	16.12%	256	NA	★★★★★
Occupational Therapist	540	650	110	20.37%	25	4.84%	★★★
Occupational Therapist Assistant	110	140	30	27.27%	6	NA	★★★
Operating Room or Surgical Technologist	450	560	110	24.44%	23	4.30%	★★★
Pharmacist	1,510	1,880	370	24.50%	82	6.43%	★★★★★
Pharmacy Technician	1,360	1,880	520	38.24%	87	NA	★★★★
Physical Therapist	840	980	140	16.67%	36	11.64%	★★★
Physical Therapist Aide	220	280	60	27.27%	13	NA	★★★
Physical Therapist Assistant	240	300	60	25.00%	14	NA	★★★
Psychiatric Aide	530	620	90	16.98%	16	NA	★★
Radiation Therapist	110	120	10	9.09%	3	NA	★
Radiologic Technologist	1,220	1,410	190	15.57%	46	6.56%	★★★★★
Recreational Therapist	220	220	0	0.00%	6	NA	★
Registered Nurse	16,380	19,510	3,130	19.11%	645	7.80%	★★★★★
Respiratory Therapist	660	900	240	36.36%	41	7.19%	★★★★
Respiratory Therapy Technician	160	220	60	37.50%	10	NA	★★★

Source: Missouri Hospital Association Workforce Survey 2005 and Missouri Economic Research and Information Center

More Information

There are many organizations and resources available to help you learn more about healthcare careers. For example, Kansas City Healthcare Workforce Partners has developed www.kchealthcareers.com, a Web site dedicated to providing information about healthcare careers in Kansas City. You will find a career directory with salaries, job profiles, career paths, career planning tools, links to colleges and universities, links to other important Web sites and much more.

Other Web sites providing valuable information about healthcare careers include the following.

- Kansas City Full Employment Council — www.feckc.org
- Kansas Hospital Association — www.kha-net.org
- Missouri Hospital Association — www.mhanet.com
- National League for Nursing — <http://nln.org/Careers/index.htm>
- Nurses for a Healthier Tomorrow — www.nursesource.org/campaign_news.html
- Occupational Information Network — <http://online.onetcenter.org>
- The Campaign for Nursing's Future — www.discovernursing.com

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